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## PRIMORSKIY KRAY FISH INDUSTRY NOW ORIENTED TO DEEP SEA OPERATIONS, WHALING

Sh. G. Nadibeidze, Chief Primorskiy Kray Fish Industry

Up to 1940, the sardine catch comprised 87 percent of the total fish catch of Primorskiy Kray. The entire development of the Primorskiy Kray fish industry enterprises was determined by the sardine catch, which in prewar years reached more than one million centaers.

Beginning in 1941, the runs of sardines suddenly diminished. The catch fell to 2,000 centners in 1942, and stopped completely in later years.

As a result, the economy was faced with a completely new problem. The workers of the Frimorskiy Kray fish industry reorganized their work, having as their objective the discovery of new types of catch, and introduced new equipment. They organized fishing and processing enterprises in new regions, and conducted large-scale expeditions into the open sea. Necessary measures were imposed to assure maximum catch of all possible types of fish. This included the transfer of sardine fleets to these new areas.

Despite the hardships caused by the disappearance of sardines, the total catch in the Primorskiy Kray graw particularly during 1947 and 1948. The catch in 1948 increased 105 percent over that of 1946, and 41 percent over 1947, that is, the catch doubled during the pest 2 years. This was accomplished by the large-scale fishing expeditions, the expansion of the whaling industry, the exploitation of new whaling grounds, and restoration of whaling combines on the Kurile Islands. The Okhotsk crab industry, which had been discontinued during the war, was revived.

The total catch in 1950 for this region will reach the prewar level.

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Exploitation of the Primorskiy Kray basin is carried on by trawlers to 11 months a year, which is a longer season than that of any other basin.

For further development of the fish catch, effort should be concentrated on the strengthening of the trawling fleets at Primorskiy Kray fish combine in order to catch Pacific mackerel which have appeared there during the past 2 years. Another objective is the organization of open-sea fishing expeditions at any given time of year for highly valuable marine products, such as tunny.

Based on the experience of a leading Soviet crab-catching collective, the "Chernyshevskiy," the socialist goal for the 1949 season has been set at 30,000 cans of crab, which is twice the average prewar production per crabber.

Construction of a number of new refrigeration plants at combines of Primorskiy Kray and in particular in southern Primorskiy Kray, has been planned. Two refrigeration plants are to be built in southern Primorskiy Kray during 1949.

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